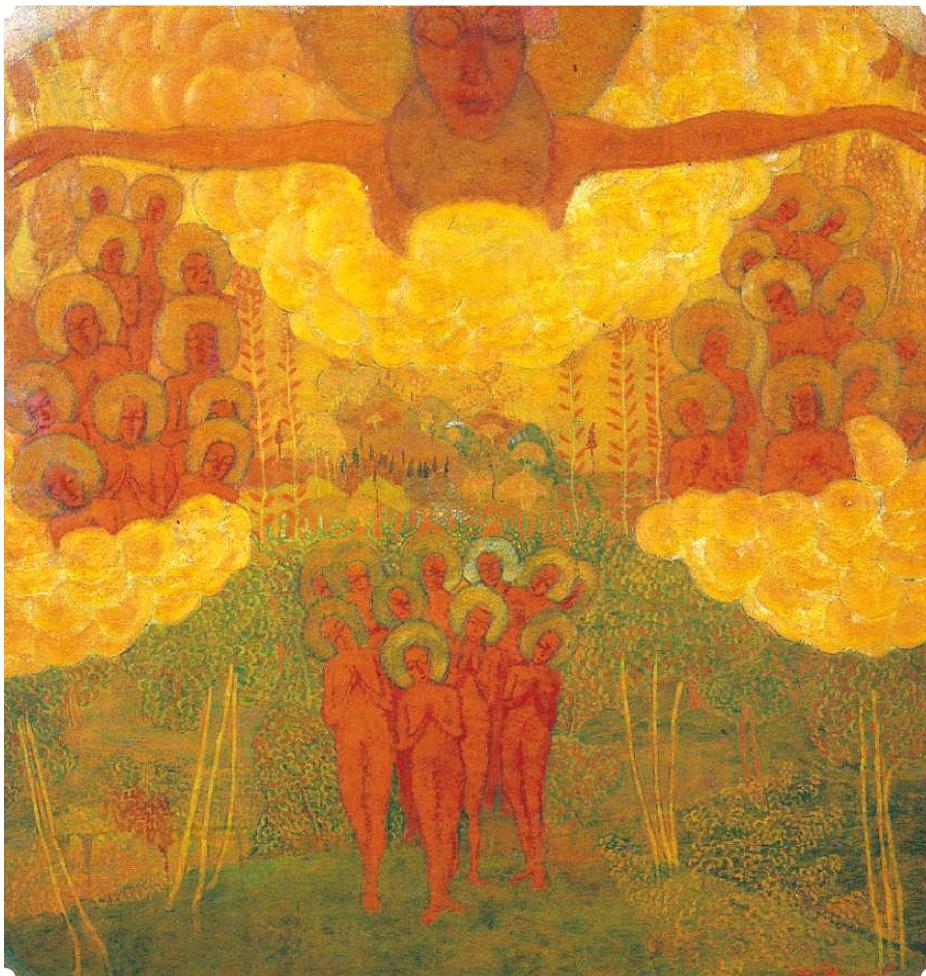


UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL FESTIVAL WORSHIP



APRIL 7, 2024

*Please stand, as able

Bold text indicates congregational response or singing.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christ is Risen/Alleluia

German Easter hymn; Gregorian Chant

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mother of ALL, my God, you are very great.

God who makes springs gush forth for all to drink

God who brings forth food from the earth for all to eat

God who rises for all to flourish, for all to be in relationship with you.

We rejoice in your abundant love and care with ALL your beloved creation.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Compassionate One,

You labor to nourish and sustain us;

help us to participate more holistically in your creation;

**and by your example, may we earnestly labor with you, in global solidarity,
to build peace and justice with all people. Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Thine is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABEUS

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering Son; end - less is
2 Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life! Life is naught

the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
he greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom. Let the church with glad - ness
with - out thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than con - querors

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
 through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con - quering
 to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - tory thou o'er death hast won.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 1:3-5, 12-14

A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church

Jesus presented himself to them, living, after his suffering through many convincing proofs, by appearing to them forty days and speaking about the reign of God. And staying with them, Jesus commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, rather to wait there for the promise of the Faithful One, "what you heard from me. For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from this one."

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. And when they entered the city, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were persevering in prayer together with women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his [sisters and] brothers.

John 14:1-7

A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God then also believe in me. In my Abba's house there are many homes. If it were not so, would I have told you all that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you all, I will come again and will take you all to myself, in order that where I am,

there you may be also. Thus I am going. You all know the way." Thomas said to him, "Rabbi, we do not know where you are going. How would we be able to know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Creator except through me. If you know me, you will know my Abba also. From now on you do know and have seen my Abba."

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

Where Children Belong

RITCHIE



This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the wor-ship-ing throng.



Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

SERMON

Only a Glimpse

Caleb Wolf

*HYMN OF THE DAY 251

I Greet You, Sure Redeemer

TOULON

*CALL TO SHARING

ANTHEM

Ave verum corpus, K618

W.A. Mozart

*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Christ all crea-tures here be-



low; O, praise God! Al-le - lu - ia! Praise Ho-ly Spi-rit, Com-for-



ter; One, God, Tri-une whom we a - dore, O, praise God! O,



praise God! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Together we lift our voices in thanksgiving and praise:

*SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

From *Festival Eucharist*

Craig Phillips

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff is labeled 'Organ' and the second 'Congregation'. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews. Healing prayer is offered in the back of the sanctuary during Communion.

*COMMUNION HYMN

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Refrain



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ri-senLord.

Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia! Give praise to Christ's name.

1. Je - sus is good Lord news of all the earth.
2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
3. We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
4. Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for - ev - er.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

to Refrain

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*HYMN OF BLESSING 230

Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Variations on *Christ lag in todesbanden*

trad. Easter chorale

GRATITUDE CORNER

I am grateful to Diane Whitney. She does the flowers EVERY week for the altar in the main sanctuary and the Assembly Hall for La Mesa. She generally keeps an eye on any indoor plants or fresh flowers in the church. She is a real trooper! I am so grateful for her reliability and good humor, week in and week out. Thanks so much Diane! –Natalie Boorman

I want to express my thankfulness to Diane Whitney, who for many years, every week, has taken care of the flowers on the altar for our enjoyment and the glory of God! She not only puts flowers together but also arranges the cloths and the candles according to the prescribed colors for the church season. After the service the flowers are shared with La Mesa as well. She, of course, would like others to come forward to help with that service or make a donation to the flower budget. (Diane also sings in the choir!) Thank you, Diane, for your creative arrangements! –Ursula Wuerth

We hope you'll read this brief devotion as an invitation to name your gratitude. If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to mmec@unitedchurch.org.

COMMUNITY FORUM SERIES: GET OUTSIDE!

April 7, 14, and 21, after Festival Worship

Alan Johnson is manager of UCCH landscaped areas that have had many others involved over the years. For this Sunday's forum, we will discuss Conservation Gardening with Alan and look at examples of the diverse landscapes that native plants create. Keep a lookout for the many pollinators that are able to take advantage of our gardens as we attempt to establish some order to the plantings. Please join us under the sanctuary portico right after Festival Worship if you'd like to participate.

April 14: Reflection hike with Millie Brobston

April 21: Gardening & Wellness session with Ashlie Thomas, the "Mocha Gardener"

MEET & GREET WITH YOUTH MINISTER JORDAN

Families & youth of the church are invited to the Youth Room to hang out and meet Jordan Haywood, our new Minister to Youth & Families. Please come by during the 11:00 hour, after Festival Worship. This is an ongoing invitation--Jordan will be in the Youth Room weekly for un-structured fellowship time together as he works on building up youth program plans.

CHURCH YARD SALE NEXT SATURDAY

Saturday, April 13, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (or until sold out)

Please tell your friends & family, and pick up a couple of flyers to share! We'll be selling clothing, books, kitchen and home items, toys, small appliances, furniture, and more! There will be plenty of parking available. Light refreshments will be sold. Cash, checks, and Venmo accepted. Proceeds support English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to be held at United Church of Chapel Hill. All are welcome!

Volunteers: We still could use the help of several people to set up/prepare for, work during, and clean up after the church yard sale! Please use the SignUpGenius form linked in our enews to volunteer, or contact Linda Soto.

WIZ WHAM ALAKAZAM: A MAGICAL MUSICAL ABOUT TEAMWORK & TOGETHERNESS

It's a day like no other for the wizards of Sun Castle. One moment the sun is shining in the sky – albeit a little dimmer than usual – then suddenly it goes out altogether. Shock turns to curiosity, curiosity turns to worry, and everyone turns to the Chief Wizard to sort it out. But when the CW's spell fails and the sinister Ice Creatures begin to surface, the wizards need to stop arguing and start acting. Can they put aside their differences and work together? Will they recognize that everybody has an important part to play? Are they prepared to listen to the right people, or merely to those with the loudest voices? Rehearsals begin on August 17, and the show will be performed on October 6. For more info contact Jenny Anderson (janderson@unitedchurch.org).

CROP HUNGER WALK BREAKS RECORD

Many thanks to all who participated in this year's CROP Hunger Walk fundraiser for IFC and CWS food security programs. Our team fielded 50 walkers, with preliminary results of \$5,000 raised--making UCCH the #1 church in our community for the first time! Donations will be accepted until April 24th.

COMPASSION CAMP VBS SIGN-UPS OPEN

We are thrilled to offer Compassion Camp Vacation Bible School this summer at United Church of Chapel Hill. VBS 2024 will take place 9 a.m.-12 p.m. from Monday, June 17-Friday, June 21. We will have a brief Compassion Camp kick off during our Children's Moment on June 16 at the 9:45 a.m. service, and VBS children will present a song to the congregation at the beginning of the 9:45 service on June 23. Children are not required to attend the service to participate in Compassion Camp. We are asking for a suggested donation of \$20 per family as you are able, but we would love to welcome your family regardless of your ability to donate. Please use the form linked on "unitedchurch.org/compassion-camp" to register participants (ages 3-5th grade) and/or helpers (middle school and high school). Registration deadline: June 2. Contact Anitra Grove (agrove@unitedchurch.org) with questions!

FRIDAY MORNING YOGA CLASS

Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall

All levels welcome! Contact Melanie Joiner (melanie.spence@gmail.com) for more info.

BLACK LIVES MATTER VIGILS

Fridays at 4 p.m. on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

All are welcome! To join the email list, please contact Natalie Boorman (hickorygroveart@mindspring.com).

FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

- ★ Bass, D.B. Way. In "Freeing Jesus," p161-215. 248.4 Bas F
- ★ Murray, P. Let not your heart be troubled. In "To Speak a Defiant Word: Sermons and Speeches on Justice and Transformation," p137-141. 252 Mur T
- ★ Volf, M. "A Public Faith: How Followers of Christ Should Serve the Common Good." 261.7 Vol P
- ★ Kelsey, D.H. What earthly difference can Jesus make here? In "Imagining Redemption," p1-19. 234 Kel I
- ★ Willimon, W.H. Waiting and praying for restoration. In "Acts," p19-22. 226.7 Wil A
- ★ Shaw, L. Seed, [and] To know him risen. In "Accompanied by Angels: Poems of the Incarnation," p87, 95-96. 811 Sha A

These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. A volunteer, Kaselehla Sielken, will be in the library immediately following the 9:45 service, to assist you in finding library materials.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Learn more about worship on the "Welcome to United Church" card in your pew.

SERVICE NOTES

MUSICIANS: Chancel Choir; Julie Mitchell, organ
SUBSTITUTE MUSIC DIRECTOR: Cameron Aiken
DEACON: Midge Coward
READER: Peter Schay
LIVESTREAM: Brian Moore
SOUNDBOARD: Bob Sielken
COFFEE HOST: Erica Tillman

COVER ART: *Triumph of the Sky*, Kazimir Severinovich Malevich, 1907.

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UNITED CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Cameron Barr
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY & BELONGING: Caleb Wolf
MINISTER TO CHILDREN: Anitra Grove
MINISTER TO YOUTH & FAMILIES: Jordan Haywood
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Jennifer Anderson
ORGANIST: Alan Davis
ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF: Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Nan de Andrade (Handbell Director), & Bianca Muñoz (La Mesa Music Director)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Kati Ruark
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER: Marisa Mee
BUSINESS MANAGER: Duane Gilbert
SEXTON: Bruce Thomas
KITCHEN STEWARDS: Nubia Rivero Bello, Hser Nay Htoo, & Andreina Galindez
NURSERY DIRECTOR: Alison Robertson
NURSERY ASSISTANTS: Alex Tanner, Colin Tanner, Harper Gray, Brooke Reynolds, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves, & Elizabeth Hall

Scripture translations are from *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church (Year B)*, Wilda C. Gafney (2023). Worship is organized around readings from the Bible, so the texts we choose have a powerful role in shaping our faith. We believe that all of God's people should see themselves reflected in the stories read in worship. *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church* is a resource that helps us choose stories from the canon of Christian scripture that include women and children at the center of the narrative. When we make a special effort to attend to the voices of women in scripture, we find ourselves also reflecting on other communities marginalized in the Christian tradition: people of color, queer and nonbinary people, immigrants, other communities whose presence in God's family go unnoticed. Wilda Gafney's translations of the text expand our imagination for God, challenging us to relate to a God who is both gendered by history and beyond our understanding of gender. Our journey with the Women's Lectionary reflects our racial equity commitments and our desire to welcome all of our neighbors into the worship of She Who Speaks Life.

Your support of UCCH makes our worship and ministry possible.

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A PLACE of BELONGING FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN